



wisconsin department of  
**children & families**

201 East Washington Avenue, Room B200

P.O. Box 8916

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Governor Scott Walker  
Secretary Eloise Anderson

Division of Early Care and Education  
*Bureau of Child Care Administration*

December 16, 2011

Dear Wisconsin Shares Parent:

You are receiving this letter because a change in the Wisconsin Shares Child Care Subsidy program is likely to affect your Child Care benefit. Information in your case file shows that you get more than \$1250 per month in child support and/or family support payments.

A new law requires the state to count court-ordered family and child support payments when determining whether a family is income-eligible for Child Care, and when determining the family's co-payment, if the family gets more than \$1250 per month. Because of delays in programming this change into the data system, we are just now implementing this requirement.

The change will go into effect on December 17. For families with on-going child care benefits, the change will first impact benefits for families beginning February 1, 2012. Some families will no longer be eligible for the Child Care Subsidy; some families will have to pay a larger share of the provider's charges because the Wisconsin Shares portion will be reduced. If the change does affect your case, you will receive a notice telling you this after the program change occurs on December 17, and telling you what to do if you think there is a mistake.

While this will be a change for many families, the requirement is clear in law. It was part of the 2009 Budget Act that amended Section 49.155(1m)(c)1 of the Wisconsin Statutes. If your case is affected, you will have the opportunity to request a fair hearing. Details on how to request a fair hearing will be included in the notice of decision that you will receive.

Sincerely,

Jim Bates, Director

F 608.267.2200 [dcf.wi.gov](http://dcf.wi.gov)